

## BRITISH DOMINATE VALLEY OF ANCRE

Haig's Troops Take by Storm Schwaben Redoubt Atop Thiepval Ridge.

## LINE ADVANCES TO EAST

Germans Confirm Entente Gains on Somme and Praise Fighting of Enemy.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—At last the British have reached the top of the Thiepval ridge, at the northern end of their Somme front, which for three months they have striven to attain. Gen. Haig's troops stormed to-day the German works called the Schwaben Redoubt, from which the British guns can dominate the whole northern valley of the Ancre.

During the night the British line also advanced at points on the line east of Thiepval, taking another step forward toward Bapaume. They are within 100 yards of Eaucourt l'Abbaye, little more than three miles southwest of Bapaume. In the fighting of the past twenty-four hours the British have taken 400 German prisoners.

The Schwaben redoubt is 500 yards north of Thiepval. It comprised an area of the strongly fortified trench master, strengthened with entanglements, concrete and armor machine gun emplacements and warren with dugouts, which the Germans of the 15th Regiment, which garrisoned Thiepval for months, had labored upon, hoping to make the defenses of the ridge impregnable.

## At Mercy of British.

From it the Germans in the Ancre valley of Grandcourt and St. Pierre Divion and the intervening trenches are practically at the mercy of the British guns. Its possession opens possibilities of a sweeping of their positions along a wide front between the Somme salient and the British salient to the north at Arras.

The French rested on their part of the Somme front, though the artillery bombarded German trenches, according to their statement. At Verdun they beat back a German attack on the famous Thiepval-Plouffe line.

The German statement to-day, however, admits the French successes about Bapaume and Houchavesnes and the St. Pierre Divion, which the French announced yesterday.

The British statement to-day says: "We attacked Schwaben Redoubt, most of which is in our hands. In the last twenty-four hours in this area nearly 400 prisoners were taken. The redoubt occupies a crest 500 yards north of Thiepval and represents the highest ground on the Thiepval ridge, with a full view over the northern valley of the Ancre."

Elsewhere on our front we consolidated our ground and advanced our lines north and northeast of Courcelles. Losses comparatively small.

The earlier British statement emphasized the small British losses compared to the prisoners taken. It says:

"During the night our line was advanced at various points between Grandcourt and Goudecourt, and the British salient to the north at Arras. On the left of our front our position was consolidated on the northeast of Thiepval. A battalion of enemy infantry with transport was caught on the march by our artillery and successfully shelled."

"The fighting in the past few days has been singularly economical. Our losses were small, not only relatively to the importance of our gains but absolutely. Our total casualties were not more than twice the number of enemy prisoners taken. One division which had a specially difficult task allotted to it took as many prisoners as it suffered casualties."

Report of the Germans.

The German statement regarding the Somme fighting says: "Between the Ancre and the Somme the English and French renewed their strong attacks after artillery preparations which even surpassed previous experiences. On the greater part of the battle front our infantry, supported by artillery and aviation, were under command of Gen. Sixt von Armin, Von Hugel and Von Schenck, vigorously repulsed the enemy."

Near Thiepval and to the east of Eaucourt l'Abbaye a violent battle has not yet come to a conclusion. Especially violent were the attacks repeated toward evening and delivered from the Merval Bouchavesnes. These were made by the enemy in the hope of his subsidiary losses during the first storming attack, which failed completely. The enemy succeeded in maintaining his hold on a small trench section northwest of Bapaume and east of Houchavesnes. Our aviators yesterday brought down seven aeroplanes—four in the Somme district. A German enemy squadron, which appeared from over Dutch territory and returned in the same direction, attacked Alost, fifteen miles northwest of Brussels, without success."

During the English bomb attack on Brussels fifteen houses were destroyed. Thirteen Belgians were killed and twenty-eight were wounded.

German Praise British Skill.

The British War Office statement issued to-day contains the following: "A captured report of the fighting on the Somme, issued by the commander of a German corps which participated in the battle, contains a tribute to the quality of our troops as follows: 'The British infantry is smart in attack, largely because of immense confidence and great artillery superiority. The most admit the skill with which they consolidate themselves in a newly gained position. They show great tenacity in defense. Small parties when once established with machine guns in the rear of a wood or a group of houses are very difficult to dislodge.'"

The following sentence shows the effect of our artillery: 'The British artillery is being pressed with increased and tireless fury for the past week, surpassing any other work since the beginning of the war.'"

"The British made no further attempt at this

## THIEPVAL BATTLE WON UNDERGROUND

Wuerttemburgers Yielded Only When Instant Death Was Alternate.

## DEEMED IT IMPREGNABLE

In Labyrinthine Stronghold They Gave Stoutest Resistance of All Fighting.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. LONDON, Sept. 28.—A correspondent at British headquarters in France telegraphs under Wednesday's date: "The capture of Thiepval involved had, bitter fighting. Nowhere on the western front has the enemy made a stouter resistance against odds or given us greater trouble in his underground lairs. The hardy Wuerttemburgers of the 18th regiment that had held Thiepval continuously for two years yielded only when instant death became the alternative."

"The last stand of the beleaguered garrison was worthy of their traditions. The capture of Thiepval generously acknowledged the gallantry of the defenders. All the more glory to the British battalions that stormed the fortress. After Thiepval was wholly in our hands the enemy made no further attempt at resistance."

Referring to the passage in the recent official statement from grand headquarters that the Entente success has been achieved through the aid of the war industries of the entire world, Major Morant says: "If our government has effective means in hand for hindering this military assistance from neutral states, it should not hesitate in applying it. The blood of our brave fighters on the Somme too precious to justify us in not utilizing every means for diminishing the losses from the iron manes thrown by hostile artillery."

"Throughout the morning the battle still raged fiercely in the dugouts underneath. This underground fighting reached its climax during the exploration of the labyrinthine Thiepval. There has been nothing like it elsewhere on this front. We know the German line has yielded many marvellous examples of catcombs, tunnels, and other means for diminishing the losses from the iron manes thrown by hostile artillery."

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## LUXEMBURG PROTESTS RAID.

Declares She Is Exempt From Air Attacks by Law.

## LLOYD GEORGE SEES A LONG WAR AHEAD

England Would Consider Move for Peace Now a Pro-German Act.

## HINT TO WILSON AND POPE

British Soldier Went Into Conflict as Sporting Proposition, He Says.

## REVOLUTION FORCED GREEK TO ACT

Continued from First Page.

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## BULGARS STAY SHORT.

Capture Trenches in Macedonia, but Are Driven Out.

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The reinforced Bulgarians got into the Serbian line of trenches in a surprise attack in the darkness, but after four assaults were driven out, says a Reuters despatch from Serbian headquarters. The losses on both sides were heavy.

The French statement says that two Bulgarian attacks on positions east and west of Florina snatched the heights from the Serbs. A British statement, describing Bulgarian reverses in the center and right of the line, says that on the Struma front the royal navy shelled an enemy column near Razdolice and French artillery shelled a column at Jemimah. Both columns were dispersed.

## FIGHT FOR PETROSENY.

Rumanians and Austrians Also Battle for Hermannstadt.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—Rumanians and Austrians are fighting stubbornly for possession of Petrosteny, in Transylvania, near the Rumanian border. The Rumanians have reached the Tilius Mountain ridge, east of the town, and "bitter fighting has occurred," according to an Austrian statement received here.

Further east the battle about Hermannstadt is no less stubborn. Rumanians and Austrians are faced by German attacks and the officers and men wished to identify themselves permanently with this fortress. They had promised the German higher command that Thiepval should never be lost.

## THOUGHT IT IMPREGNABLE.

"The Wuerttemburgers were sure that the position was impregnable. Not until the British came sweeping around from the southeast and other fortified villages in the chain of defense began to fall did they have serious doubts as to their security. The last fortress brought the realization that they could not hold out."

"They were determined to put up a good fight. Their ability to hold Thiepval so long was due largely to the many times from shellfire they had in their dugouts. They lived in security. They were determined to put up a good fight. Their ability to hold Thiepval so long was due largely to the many times from shellfire they had in their dugouts. They lived in security. They were determined to put up a good fight. Their ability to hold Thiepval so long was due largely to the many times from shellfire they had in their dugouts. They lived in security."

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Liner's Officers Say It's for Defense if U. B. Attacks.

Boston, Sept. 28.—A four-inch gun was mounted on the stern of the British steamship Devonian to-day, and gunners of the British navy took up their quarters on the liner, which is due to sail for Liverpool on Saturday. Representatives of the Leyland Line assured port officials that the gun was for defense purposes only, in view of the state of affairs in the North Atlantic. Members of the Devonian's crew said the gunners served on the battleship Queen Elizabeth.

## TO PREVENT GERMAN SEA DASH.

U. S. Officers Aboard Interned Liners During Transfer to-day.

Norfolk, Va., Sept. 28.—American naval officers will be aboard the two interned German liners, Prinz Eitel Friedrich and Kronprinz Wilhelm, tomorrow when they are transferred from here to Philadelphia. The eight battleships that will accompany them are ready to start to-morrow morning.

The heavy guard is put on the German ships as much to prevent their trying to dash through the allied cruiser line as to prevent interference by the allied warships. Additions to the guard were necessary because the transfer to Philadelphia.

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## RUSSIANS CUT LINE OF AUSTRO-GERMANS

Gen. Brusiloff's Left Captures Important Point Above Kirlibaba.

## Important Point Above Kirlibaba.

PETROGRAD, Sept. 28.—The Russian commander Gen. Brusiloff has pushed forward his extreme left during recent days to the highway running between Kimpolung and Maramoros, cutting that important Austro-German line of communication some miles above Kirlibaba.

After a series of desperate battles the Russians succeeded in capturing a mountain overlooking the highway, which gave them an important strategic advantage. At the same time they took a range of mountains overlooking Kirlibaba.

According to the correspondent of the Novoe Vremya, that town for the first time in the campaign is under the fire of the Russian cannon. Immediately to the north of this district the Russians have moved ahead to the upper reaches of the Cherny-Chernom, where the stream bends southward to Kuty (Bukovina). The extremely mountainous country is offering every advantage to the defender, and the advance has been made against tremendous odds.